

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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JAEGER SETS PRESIDENTIAL CAUCUSES EARLY IN 2004

Bismarck, ND – Secretary of State Al Jaeger officially announced today that he has set Tuesday, February 3 as the date for the state's presidential caucuses in 2004.

Jaeger's announcement follows discussions with and input gathered from the state's two established major political parties, the North Dakota Republican and Democratic-NPL parties.

Jaeger's announcement means that North Dakota's presidential preference caucuses will be held three weeks following the District of Columbia's "first in the nation" January 13 Presidential Primary, two weeks following Iowa's January 19 Presidential Caucuses, and one week following New Hampshire's January 27 Presidential Primary. Other states and jurisdictions that have tentatively set presidential nominating contests on February 3 include Arizona, Delaware, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and South Carolina.

"Currently, North Dakota is the only upper-Midwest state to schedule its presidential nominating contest on February 3," said Jaeger. "As a result, this may position North Dakota to attract some attention from the potential presidential candidates."

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Please find attached a copy of a tentative listing of the nation's presidential nominating contests, compiled by the National Association of Secretaries of State. Also attached is a copy of the provisions of state law that will govern North Dakota's presidential preference caucuses. For more information about how presidential candidates will participate in North Dakota's presidential preference caucuses, please contact:

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